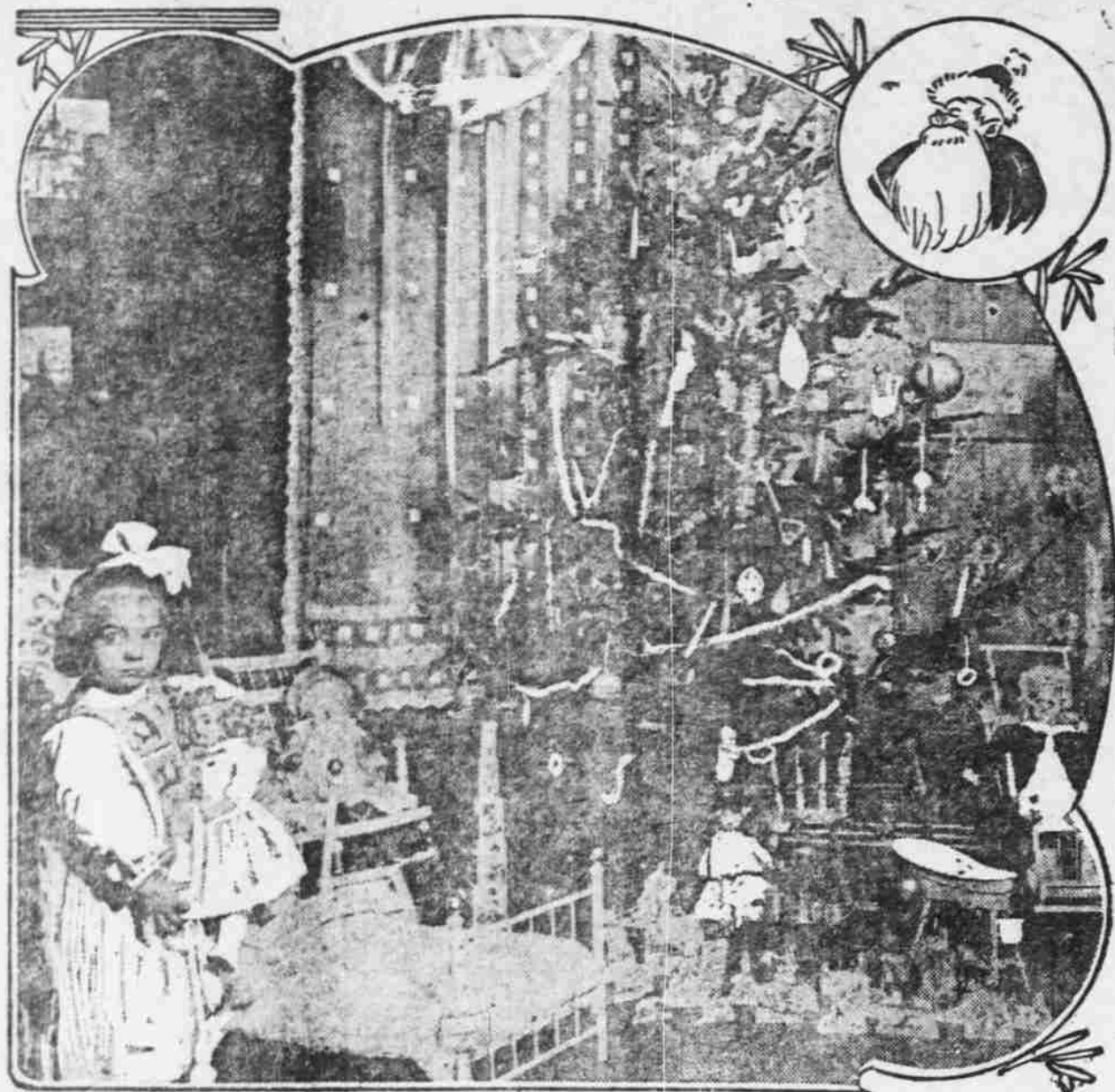


# Christmas Day Services in the Rock Island Churches



Drill—Nine children.  
 Recitation, "Dem Christkind Leuchten"—Marie Hurler.  
 Recitation, "What Do They Say?"—Delmar Yarrow.  
 Recitation, "Like the Star"—Roderick St. Clair.  
 Solo—Carolyn Brunwig.  
 Recitation, "What He Said"—Ethel Hillmer.  
 Recitation, "The First Christmas Song"—Glenn Hubbe.  
 Recitation, "The Christmas Message"—Walter Still.  
 Recitation, "In Der Heiligen Nacht"—Irene Clamer.  
 Reading—Willie Hillmer.  
 Duet—W. Brox and Miss Lina Brox.  
 Recitation, "Das Weihnachtsfest der Urhane"—Esther Clamer.  
 Song—Mixed choir.  
 Dialogue, "How We Spent Christmas in Japan"—Gertrude Hurler and Emma Anderegg.  
 Duet, "Es lag in Finsternis die Welt"—Messrs. W. Brox and Theo. Klee.  
 Dialogue, "Wiedersprueche"—Misses Pauline Trenkenschuh and Flora Klee.  
 Recitation, "Die Frohe Botschaft"—Edward Zimmer.  
 Recitation—Rolie Optenberg.  
 Song—Mixed choir.  
 Interim—Free will offering.  
 Address—William Brox, president Epworth league.  
 Male quartet—W. Brox, I. Schultze, W. Schiebort, W. Emig.  
 Distribution of gifts to the Sunday school scholars.  
 Benediction—Pastor.

At Alken street chapel the entertainment for the children of the school will be held Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. There will be a program of music and drills followed by a Christmas party. Each person attending brings some small gift which are put together and then distributed among the children assuring each one of some remembrance. There will also be candy and oranges for each pupil, and a large tree will be a feature.

## The Star of Bethlehem

THE story of the star of Bethlehem has ever been a favorite one with painters and poets and has been a subject of serious study by theologians and scientists. Many astronomers have asserted that the heavenly visitant was a comet and have even sought to identify it with some of the comets now known. Churchmen, on the other hand, have combated these attempts to ascribe a natural cause to the phenomenon and have contended that the gospel text shows the star to have been sent by a miracle to guide the wise men to the Christ Child. One of the favorite theories in the early days of the church was that a luminous angel shining like a star led the magi on their way. Another explanation was that the Holy Ghost took the form of a star, as he afterward did that of a dove at the time of the baptism of Jesus by John.

The beautiful tale of the star of Bethlehem is contained in the second chapter of Matthew:

"Now, when Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in Judea, in the days of Herod, the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem.

"Saying, Where is he that is born king of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him."

Herod is troubled on hearing this and calls in his chief priests and scribes to learn where Christ should be born. They told him in Bethlehem. The account goes on:

"Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

And he sent them into Bethlehem and said, Go and search diligently for the young child, and when ye have found him bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

"When they had heard the king they departed, and, lo, the star which they had seen in the east went before them till it came and stood over where the young child was.

"When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

They did not return to Herod, however, being warned in a dream.

Another story of the Nativity that has made an equal appeal to artists is that of the shepherds. This occurs in the second chapter of Luke:

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

"For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

"And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger.

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Nineteen hundred years have passed, and the Child has become the leader of the nations. Only three important countries are now outside of Christian rule. Of these Turkey is being dismembered, Japan is seriously considering the inclusion of a large part of Christianity in her state religion, and China has gone through a revolution many of the leaders of which were Christian converts and which resulted in establishing a republic after the model of our own.



## THE NATIVITY

By JAMES A. EDGERTON

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THE time and clime are both afar  
 Whence the wise men saw the star  
 Whose mystic light  
 Across the night  
 Has rendered all the ages bright,  
 And yet the story is as young  
 As when it first was said and sung  
 With bated breath  
 In Nazareth  
 To charm the sorrow out of death.

The shepherd band in Bethlehem  
 Heard angel voices call to them  
 Of him whose name  
 Will ever claim  
 The freshest laurels plucked by Fame.

Their tale, through countless ages told  
 Is yet forever new and old.  
 And now, as then,  
 We hear again  
 Of "Peace on earth, good will toward men."

THE things of Beauty and of Truth  
 Are dowered with eternal youth,  
 Are ever new  
 The ages through  
 And fresh with heaven's morning dew.  
 The story of the Christ Child's birth  
 Stirs something in us not of earth,  
 That lifts and heals,  
 Life's book unseals,  
 A man unto himself reveals.

Forevermore the Christ is born  
 In each new era's shining morn.  
 When men grow free  
 His star we see  
 The guiding light of liberty.  
 In each advance of truth and good,  
 Of helpfulness and brotherhood  
 He leads the van  
 To build his plan  
 Of heaven in the heart of man.



The children and they will be given a treat.

At the German Methodist church services will be held at 10 o'clock.

The services commemorating the birth of Christ will begin at Trinity Episcopal church with midnight services tonight. Tomorrow services will be held at 8 and 10 o'clock.

At Sacred Heart Catholic church services will be held Christmas morning at 5 o'clock and at 10:30 o'clock. At the early morning service Weigand's mass will be rendered by the choir accompanied by Bluer's orchestra with Frank Freistat at the organ. The program is:

Kyrie (Weigand)—Miss A. Green, Mr. Caulfield and chorus.

Gloria (Weigand)—Messrs. Driggs, Caulfield and chorus.

Credo (Weigand)—Misses O'Farrell and Quinn and chorus.

Duet, "Et Unum Santum"—Misses Green and Lahiff.

Offertory, "The Birthday of a King" (Rosvig)—George Caulfield.

Sanctus (Weigand)—Miss Caulfield and chorus.

Agnes Dei (Weigand)—Mr. Driggs and chorus.

Communion—Trio: Misses Green, Lahiff and O'Farrell.

Soprano—Misses Alice Green, Mae Lahiff, Mary Caulfield, Mary O'Farrell and Anna Lahiff.

Altos—Misses Loreto Quinn, May McCarthy and Nellie Brewer.

Following is the program that will be given by the Sunday school of the United Presbyterian church at the church this evening at 7 o'clock:

Welcome, "A Merry Christmas"—Ernest Nussli.

Dialogue, "Christmas"—Fred Erickson, Doris Erickson, Izetta Koch, Henry Thomas, Virginia Smith, Myrtle McKown, Dorothy Thomas, William Smith, Mabel Nelson.

Recitation, "The First Christmas"—Marvin Koch.

Song, "Long Ago"—Miss McKown's and Miss Ralston's classes.

Recitation, "Santa Claus"—Ralph McKown.

Recitation, "Her Reasons"—Virginia Dobbs.

Dialogue, "Christmas Bells"—Floyd Koch, Virginia Smith, Carl Erickson, Mabel Nelson, Wacker Shields, Dorothy Thomas, William Smith and Ruth Case.

Recitation, "At Christmas Time"—Hugh Fitzsimmons.

Recitation, "What I'd Like"—Lavonne Felske.

Song, "Good News We Bring"—Miss Moller's and Miss Wagner's classes.

Recitation, "A Gift to Santa"—Lucy Whitte.

Dialogue, "Christmas Jumping Jacks"—Bernard Andrews, Harold Downs, Frazier Vance, Ernest Bertelson, Clifford Reid and Albert Moller.

Recitation, "A Suggestion for Santa Claus"—Bela Metcal.

Recitation, "The Story of Christmas"—Elizabeth Schroder.

Recitation, "How Many Children Show Their Love"—Ralph McLane.

Song, "Way Up in the Gray Sky"—Virginia Dobbs.

Recitation, "What We Can Give"—Ernest Coyne.

Dialogue, "Our Christmas Jewels"—Charlotte Bladel, Alice Nelson, Dorothy Deisenroth, Mildred Felske, Arvilla Summers, Etta Young, Gladys Thomas, Ruth Bauer, Julia Moller and Ruby Summers.

Recitation, "The Other Children"—Olga Nussli.

Recitation, "A Good Will Band"—William Gardner.

Song, "Holy Night, Silent Night"—Miss McKown's and Miss Ralston's classes.

The following program will be given by the Sunday school of the German Methodist church Wednesday evening, Dec. 25, at 7:30 o'clock:

Organ Prelude—Miss Lina Brox.

Song—School.

Prayer and Scripture Reading—Pastor.

Solo, "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht"—Miss Flora Klee.

Address—Superintendent W. Emig.

Song—Mixed choir.

Recitation, "Kommt zum Jesuskind"—Charles Scherrer.

Recitation, "Der Engel Friedens"—Eather Hubbe.

Recitation, "O Happy Christmas Night"—Fred Anderegg.

Recitation, "A Christmas Story"—Mabel van Themsche.

Solo—Bertha Emig.